INCOMING TELEGRAM *Department of State*

DEF 12-5 Jorda

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S E C R E T OCTOBER FOURTH

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RE DEFTO 5083 OF OCTOBER 1, VEMOASSH HAS NO REPEAT NO CASE OF ANY KIND TO PRESENT RE DESIRABILITY JORDIANIAN PURCHASE FRENCH AIRCRAFT. REFTEL SEEMS TO US TO PRESENT ADMIRABLY CASE AGAINST THIRD-PARTY SALES TO JORDAN AND WE HOLD NO REPEAT NO BRIEF FOR FRENCH AIRCRAFT SALES TO SUCH COUNTRIES. HERETOFORE EMBASSY HAS ASSIDUOUSLY PUSHED FOR FRENCH TO OFFER MIRAGE IIIE* TO JORDAN ON BASIS INSTRUCTIONS FROM WASHINGTON BUT THERE IS NO REPEAT NO POLITICAL BRIEF FOR THIS ACTION. FURTHERMORE FRENCH HAVE SHOWN NO

PAGE 2 RUFHPA 113 S E C R E T
REPEAT NO ENTHUSIASM FOR THIS ACTION AND INDEED RELUCTANCE TO DO SO UNTIL KING HUSSEIN SPOKE TO DEGAULLE PERSONALLY. LATTER PRESUMABLY MIGHT LIKE MAKE SOME GRANDIOSE GESTURE REGARDING PRICE BUT UNTIL NOW FRENCH HAVE MADE CLEAR THEY HAD STRAIGHT COMMERCIAL TRANSACTION IN MIND. CREDIT TERMS EVEN AS FAVORABLE AS THOSE GIVEN LEBANON HAD SEEMED UNLIKELY ESPECIALLY IN VIEW FRENCH TRADITIONALLY CLOSE TIES WITH LEBANON.

IN LIGHT OUR OVERALL RELATIONS WITH FRANCE INCLUDING DIFFICULTIES OVER NATO AND FAR EASTERN PROBLEMS, IT HAD SEEMED SLIGHTLY INCONGROUOUS TO BE URGING SO STRONGLY FRENCH TAKE ACTION IN NEAR EAST FOR WHICH THEY EVIDENCED NO REPEAT NO ENTHUSIASM. THEREFORE, ALTHOUGH IT SEEMS SOMEWHAT OUT OF PLACE FOR THIS EMBASSY MAKE RECOMMENDATIONS ON OVERALL QUESTION OF ARMS SALES TO MIDDLE EAST, WE CAN ONLY SAY WE AGREE FULLY WITH DEFTO 5083 AND WILL OBSERVE DEPARTMENT'S INSTRUCTIONS WITHOUT ANY PROBLEM SHOULD RECOMMENDATION CONTAINED REFTEL BE ACCEPTED TO ALTER POLICY OF TRYING GET FRENCH FURNISH ~~SUPERSONIC~~ AIRCRAFT TO JORDAN.
GP-3 BOHLEN

* AS RECEIVED.

SECRET

DEPARTMENT OF STATE A/CDC/MR
REVIEWED BY Duncan Peters DATE 2/1/84
RDS☐ or XDS☐ EXT. DATE
TS AUTH. REASON(S)
ENDORSE EXISTING MARKINGS ☐
DECLASSIFIED☒ RELEASABLE☒
RELEASE DENIED☐
PA or FOI EXEMPTIONS